

Barney Tibbals Cabin
Southwest corner of Price Street
and South Pass Avenue
South Pass City
Fremont County
Wyoming

HABS No. WYO-34

HABS
WYO,
7-SOPAC,
7-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20005

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. WYO-34

BARNEY TIBBALS CABIN

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Location: Southwest corner of Price Street and South Pass Avenue, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming.
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS South Pass City Quadrangle Map) 12.680780.4703880.

Present Owner: This is presently under dispute in the courts. The contestants are John Bane and G. B. Colemere, President of the Pioneer Carissa Gold Mine, Inc.

Present Occupant: None.

Present Use: Visitor's Center for South Pass City Historic Site.

Statement of Significance: A typical log cabin from the turn of the century.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: About 1904.
2. Architect: Unknown.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Legal description of property: Lots 104 and 106 at the Southwest corner of Price Street and South Pass Avenue, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming.

(Note: For further information on land ownership in South Pass City see the HABS Report on South Pass City, WYO-27.) Ownership of land in South Pass City is complicated by multiple claims to properties. The original plat of the townsite was laid out in 1867, this plat was lost and a second plat was drawn in 1870. Between 1873 and 1875 the county seat of Sweetwater County shifted between South Pass City and Green River. Because of this vacillation several books on the land records for this period can be found in Green River at the Sweetwater County Courthouse, at the State Museum in Cheyenne, and at the Western History Research Center at the University of Wyoming Library at Laramie.

In 1884, South Pass City became part of Fremont County. At that time several placer claims encompassing the area including

South Pass City were established and owned by the Federal Gold Mining Company. These included the Wolverine, Lucky Boy, Victory, and Jeanette Lode claims. The Company permitted people to build on the land without buying it. Thus, if there were any records at all of these buildings they were contained in the records of the tax assessor.

In 1902, the Federal Gold Mining Company made a third plat of the town. This plat covered the area of the Wolverine Placer Claim which included approximately the western two-thirds of the original plat of South Pass City. The Company arranged with the owners of the buildings on the Wolverine Claim to give them the land upon which their buildings were located in exchange for one dollar, thus preventing any future court challenge. The Company sold the same plot of land to several owners in some instances. In addition, they changed the names of the streets in South Pass City.

The Federal Gold Mining Company sold the land upon which the cabin stands to Barney Tibbals in 1904. Tibbals gave the property to his wife, Anna, in 1939 who, in turn, gave the property to her daughter, Janet Tibbals, in 1941. Janet Tibbals sold the cabin to Jean Chipp in 1960. An heir to Jean Chipp, Jessie McCort, sold the property to the Pioneer Carissa Gold Mine, Inc., in 1971. This sale was disputed by another heir, Donald Chipp, and subsequent court action gave him a half-ownership in the property. However, the question of ownership returned to the courts, when John Bane claimed half-ownership in the property had been given him by Jean Chipp in exchange for work he had done on the cabin. Consequently Bane entered into legal action against the Pioneer Carissa Gold Mine, Inc.

4. Alterations and additions: The interior of the cabin was re-decorated when the State of Wyoming prepared it for use as a visitor's center. This work was done in 1971.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Bibliography:

- a. Primary and unpublished sources:

Bane, John, resident of South Pass City since 1926; interview in South Pass City, Wyoming on June 23, 1973.

Fremont County, Abstract of Titles for South Pass City, Fremont County Courthouse; Lander, Wyoming.

Shaffer, Thomas, planner for the Wyoming Recreation Commission; interview in Cheyenne, Wyoming on June 19, 1973.

b. Secondary and published sources:

Muths, Thomas. Restoration Master Plan, South Pass City, Wyoming. Jackson, Wyoming: Design Associates, 1972.

Prepared by John Paige
Project Historian
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A typical log cabin from the turn of the century.
2. Condition of fabric: Very good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Rectangular, approximately 17' x 32'.
2. Foundations: New concrete foundations.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Natural finish, hand-hewn, lodgepole pine logs with white painted cover boards at the corners and at the mid-point splice along long sides.
4. Structural system, framing: Log bearing wall.
5. Porches, stoops: None.
6. Chimneys: Center brick chimney.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: There is a panel-over-light-over-three-panel wooden door in the east (front) wall and in the north (side) wall.
 - b. Windows, shutters: Windows are double-hung with varying numbers of lights.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The gable roof has green asphalt roll roofing.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed eaves with fascia board, ten-inch overhang.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: There are two rooms. The front (east) room is now used as an exhibit and vending machine room. The west (rear) room is now used for a slide-tape presentation about the city.
2. Stairways: None.
3. Flooring: Three and one-half inch tongue and groove pine flooring.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Painted gypsum board.
5. Doorways and doors: There is a five-panel wooden door between the two rooms.
6. Trim and cabinet work: A built-in storage cabinet supports the chimney and opens into the rear (west) room.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: Located at the major intersection of South Pass City, the cabin is oriented 80 degrees east of south.
2. Outbuildings: None.

Prepared by J. William Rudd
Architect
Project Supervisor
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made during the 1973 Wyoming Project undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Wyoming Recrea-

tion Commission. During the project, records were made on twenty-eight (28) individual subjects and six (6) historic areas.

This project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Supervisor was Professor J. William Rudd, Architect, of the University of Cincinnati. Project Historian was John Paige, Oklahoma State University. The measured drawings were prepared by John Uhler, University of California at Berkeley, Architect; and Student Assistant Architects Richard Duflocq, University of Cincinnati, Clayton Fraser, University of Tennessee, and Richard Wyatt, California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. This report was edited for HABS in 1977 by Candace Reed.